

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the non-final Office action mailed October 24, 2007. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Present Status of Patent Application

Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 26-46 are pending in the present application. More specifically, claims 1-25 have been canceled without prejudice, waiver or disclaimer; and claims 26-46 are new claims that are being submitted without introduction of new subject matter. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in a continuing application if they so desire, and do not intend to dedicate the subject matter of the canceled claims to the public. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

A. Examiner interview summary

Applicants thank Examiner for the telephone conversation between Examiner Nguyen and Applicants' representative Dara on January 22, 2008. During the conversation, Applicants' representative informed Examiner of Applicants' intention to cancel pending claims 1-25 and submit new claims for providing better focus upon certain aspects of the invention. Applicants' representative briefly and broadly (without getting into specifics of the amendments) described the focus of the new claims so as to assist Examiner in examining these claims. No agreements or conclusions were reached in this matter.

B. Objections to the Specification

The specification has been objected to because of various typographical errors pertaining to reference designators. Applicants have rectified these errors in amendments to the specification provided herein and respectfully request entry of the amendments followed by withdrawal of the objection.

C. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Statement of the Rejection

Claims 1-12, 18-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sugita (US 2004/0068548).

Response to the Rejection

Claims 1-12 and 18-25

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-12 and 18-25 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). However, rather than carrying out claim amendments, which may lead to a loss of clarity, Applicants have opted to cancel the rejected claims and to submit new claims that provide better focus upon the invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 1-12 and 18-25 has been rendered moot as a result of the cancellation.

D. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Statement of the Rejection

Claim 13-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugita (US 2004/0068548) in view of Zimmerman (US 7,268,900).

Response to the Rejection

Claims 13-17

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 13-17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). However, rather than carrying out claim amendments, which may lead to a loss of clarity, Applicants have opted to cancel the rejected claims and to submit new claims that provide better focus upon the invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 13-17 has been rendered moot as a result of the cancellation.

E. Remarks related to new claims

Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 26-46 are allowable over the cited prior art and hereby request consideration and allowance of these claims. The subject matter of the new claims has been disclosed in various portions of Applicants' original specification.

For example, a portion of the subject matter of claim 26 is disclosed in Applicants' paragraph [0009], which cites: "*In the network 100, the printer 102 need only contain enough memory to store the firmware for any single function to be executed by the programmable print*

controller 104, reducing the overall capacity of memory required when compared to a conventional printer since the firmware for all functional modes of the printer need not all be stored in the printer” (emphasis added).

As another example, a portion of the subject matter of claim 32 is disclosed in Applicants’ paragraph [0018], which cites: “*To make this determination, the circuitry 112 reads the FW Loaded Flag stored in the RAM 114 and determines whether this flag is set indicating the firmware is loaded into the RAM or whether the flag is reset indicating the firmware is not loaded. If the determination is negative, the process goes to step 208 and the firmware segment FWI-FWN corresponding to the selected functional mode of the printer 102 is transferred to the processing control circuitry 112 which, in turn, stores the firmware in the RAM 114 and sets the FW Loaded Flag” (emphasis added).*

As yet another example, a portion of the subject matter of claim 41 is disclosed in Applicants’ paragraph [0014], which cites with reference to FIG. 1: “*The actual firmware FW that may be transferred to the programmable controller 104 for execution is also stored in the memory 128, and is indicated as being formed by a plurality of individual firmware segments FW1-FWN. Depending upon the selected functional mode of the printer 102, only the corresponding one or ones of these firmware segments FWI-FWN are transferred to the controller 104 in the printer 102 for storage in the RAM 114, as will also be explained in more detail below” (emphasis added).*

Prior Art Made of Record

The prior art made of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 26-46 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims (including withdrawn claims) are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned representative at (404) 610-5689.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this paper is being electronically transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents on the date shown below:

Date of transmission: 22 January 2008

Signature: /P. S. Dara/

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